Accordingly, the proposal of HFC has been posed to them on 5.1.2000.

Decrease in Saving Rates

†4644. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that saving rate is decreasing constrantly in the country during the last few years;

(b) if so, the assessment with regard to saving rate during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(c) whether Government have ascertained the reasons with regard to this decrease in saving rate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) As per the latest available data with Central Statistical Organisation, saving rate measured in terms of gross domestic savings as a proportion of gross domestic product at current market prices was 23.3 per cent in 1996-97, 24.7 per cent in 1997-98 and 22.3 per cent in 1998-99 (Quick Estimates). The decline in the saving rate in 1998-99 is attributed to a decline in the saving rate of both the public sector and the private sector. Saving rate for the public sector measured in terms of gross public sector savings as a proportion of GDP at current market prices declined from 1.7 per cent in 1996-97 to 1.4. per cent in 1997-98 and fell to negligible levels (0.03 per cent) in 1998-99. Savings rate for the private sector (comprising household and private corporate sector) measured in terms of gross private sector savings as a proporation of GDP at current prices increased from 21.6 per cent in 1996-97 to 23.3 per cent in 1997-98 and declined to 22.3 per cent in 1998-99.

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† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.